TTER to a Friend; occasion'd by a late Pamphlet, Advice to the Electors of Great-Britain. Parliament

Eputation and Peace of Mind are the two moſt valu'd Bleſſings to a Man of Honour, in this World; and he muſt be endued with uncommon Fortitude, who can preſerve the latter, while the other is infamouſly aſſaulted; perhaps Philoſophy alone cou'd not attain that, if Chriſtianity came not in for Aid. I plead this to you, Sir, for to the Intemperance I expreſs'd at the Paper you ſhew'd me yeſterday at Coffee-houſe, call'd, *An Advice to the Electors of* Great-Britain; and I give to the Thanks, that I can now peruſe it with calmneſs.

So willing am I to do right, that I will own the Author to be a great Maſter Compendiums, who could cram the Malice, Scandals, and Falſities of Volumes into one poor Penny Paper.

You were pleas'd to tell me, you wiſh'd ſome Anſwer were made to it, and your Commands are by me indiſputed, tho' I wiſh ſome abler Perſon lay under the Injunction; and tho' my poor Opinion is, That the proper Defence a Tory can make to theſe objected Crimes, is to ſay, Not Guilty; for tho' we know the Names of Whig and Tory, none can tell whom he means, by his Characters of them; and I imagine, were Sir *R*——— *B*——— accus'd of Murder, and Witneſſes ſhould deſcribe him as tall and comely a Perſonage as his windy Panegyrics foretel him to be, that a prudent Jury would acquit him.

Obſerve it, Sir, and you will find, That the moſt violent Aſſerters of Liberty and Property, in Taverns and Coffee-houſes, are the greateſt Tyrants in their Families; and that audacious Man who would pull his lawful Monarch from the Throne, and wreſt his Scepter from his Hands, for the minuteſt Error in Government, does every day act injuſtice in his own Family, inſults his Wife, and beats his Servants. And 'tis no leſs remarkable, that thoſe very Perſons, who ſeem to bewail our Diviſions, are they who widen them, and invent Diſtinctions.

For Proof of this, I refer to the late Pamphlets, the weekly Papers, and particularly to this vile Invective.

Let any Man, of Common Senſe, read this fine *Advice*, and determine if this be a Way to make us vigorous againſt our *French* Enemies of all kinds, or to ceaſe Diſcord at home; would this raſh Man really have all the Gentlemen in *England* call'd Tories, comprehended under the abominable Character he aſſixes to it? I need not ſay how dangerous ſuch a thing would prove: For 'tis not every Man who is bleſs'd with Temper and Patience, and in this Age they would invert our Saviour's moſt admirable Direction; not to act by Men, as we would they ſhould do unto us, but to do by them, as we, in our Fears, apprehend they would unto us. A wiſe Man ſhould apprehend this, and good Men know, That the Tories Loyalty to the Queen, and Affection to her Perſon are immoveable, and their Good-Nature to all Perſons is unalterable.

Does he not, in his Conſcience, I mean his private Thoughts, know this notorious Truth, That the Tories are infinitely moſt conſiderable, in reſpect to the Antiquity of their Families, and the Greatneſs of their Eſtates? Let him examine, and he will find two thirds of the Land of *England* are in their Hands? Let him examine Hiſtory, and ſee if they are branded with Rebellion againſt their Sovereign, or Perſecution againſt their Brethren? and let him enquire who makes the nobleſt Figure in Parliament, for Virtue, Probity, and good Senſe. And is it well that ſuch ſhould be rendred odious to God and Man, Apoſtates from Religion, Rebels to her Majeſty, and Betrayers of their Liberties? Is it to make our excellent Queen deteſt them, to ſpirit up the Common

People to massacre them, and give them a Description, which, in Charity, I hope none on this side Hell deserve.

Even a Mistake is a Reproach to a wise Man; a Falsity in jest is mean, but a Lie invented in the Dark, told with Malice, and calculated to do vast Injuries, argues such Baseness, such Cowardice, such Inhumanity, that neither Pillory nor Gibbet are adequate Punishments to the Crime. But the Mercies of God are great. If any thing can be added to make this Crime appear yet more black, 'tis the practising it for Reward; when without any Affront given, or any Provocation for Resentment, a Man attacks another's Reputation, meerly to procure a Sum of Money, or the Smiles of some Man in Power; such an one is the worst kind of Bravo. I know not what Collections have been privately made for this bad Man, but I can tell the poor Hireling a secret, and which he may depend on for Truth, That he will never recommend himself to Court by writing such scurrilous Pamphlets, nor by traducing a whole Body of Men, who are in greater Estimation with some Persons than he imagines; and who have it in their Power, whenever they please, (whatever such as he fancy) to make themselves the Theme of his Flattery, as now they are the Object of his malicious Railings.

But he has the Assurance, not only to vilify her Majesty's most numerous, most considerable, and most faithful Subjects, but commits that very treasonable Practice, which her Majesty, in her late most Gracious Speech, complains of: Nay, what is yet more daring, he quotes that Part of it which is his own Condemnation; for almost every Expression in his Paper, is *falsly representing the true Interest and Inclinations of her People.* I know not what private Encouragement *France* or the Pretender may have had to invade us, I wish they may be discover'd and punish'd; but I am sure there are a great many publick ones; and 'tis astonishing to see Papers printed, and publickly expos'd to Sale, whose whole Tendency is to create Misunderstandings between Her Majesty and Her People, to ferment our Divisions, to intimidate one another, to encourage our Enemies, and to swallow so foul an Error, that Her Majesty's Sacred Person is not belov'd, Her Title not approv'd, nor her Government applauded by her Subjects. This is what would not be believ'd of any other Age, nor tolerated in any other Nation, yet this is what we daily see, and what is the chief intent of this *Advice*, &c.

Whatever some tricking Men may think, Honesty is the best Policy. Dissembling and Falshood may delay Vengeance for some time, but it will come; and then Iniquity falls unpitied; and when the mean Arts by which it was supported are seen, they become not only odious but ridiculous and contemptible. Justice and Truth are founded in, and supported by Wisdom; but Knavery is not only Folly at first, but its whole Progress is silly and weak. Even Madness will reason truer than Vice; for a Frantick Man, tho' he lays down a wrong Principle, will argue agreeably to it; but a dishoneſt Man begins with a wrong Principle, his Actions are unjust, and his Arguments false. Did I not resolve to confine my self, I cou'd from every Paragraph of this malicious Paper, give Confutations as well of his Injustice and Calumnies, as his disingenuous way of arguing them. But I will not afflict your Patience; a few Remarks shall suffice. And indeed there needs no more to bring this *Advice* into Contempt, than to observe, that the first Distinction he makes is a Confutation of all which follows: For 'tis obvious, he there frees the Tories from the imputation of Jacobitism, in saying, *there can be no occasion to mention the Jacobite Party*, and that *the two contending Parties to be consider'd are the Whigs and Tories*, he plainly allows neither of them are Jacobites. But truth is not long-liv'd in his Breast, for tho' it has got a short Ascendant to do the Tories this Justice, yet in opposition to his own Words and to common sense, he describes them not only Jacobites but Enemies to *Liberty and Humane Society*; and in his Madness, he makes them all Papists, *desirous to bring the Church of* England *under a bitter Persecution.* For my Part, I thought the Tories had been of the Church of *England*, and consequently remov'd from Popery and that they would have been allow'd that Liberty, and then to make the Church of *England* persecute the Church

very extraordinary. But 'tis a judgment, that Men who are void of Goodneſs, are void of Reaſon.

'Tis almoſt joyning in the Scandal, to apprehend ſuch groſs ones as theſe, can either influence or prejudice any one. None can read them without an Abhorrence of the Inventor of ſuch Falſities, and deſpiſing ſuch an Hypocritical Exclamation at the beginning, *ſo willing am I to do right to all Parties!* 'tis a fine way of doing Right to repreſent the Tories ſo inhumanely, ſo monſtrouſly, *as being always Enemies to our Civil and Religious Rights*; and the Whigs the conſtant ſupporters of them. To render one as bad as Devils, and the other next to Angels, when old Experience and conſtant Demonſtration prove the contrary. To recriminate, is an ungentleman-like task, or it were eaſy to enquire who Murder'd our Bleſſed Martyr King Charles the firſt, and who ſtill maintain the ſame Principles, boaſt the Deed, and ſolemnize the Day with Feaſts and Revels. Who hatch'd the Meal-Tub, or Rye-Houſe Plot, who ſtill Glory in the Deſign, and repine at its failure? Who they were who joyn'd in the Rebellion of the Duke of *Monmouth*, before the Infringement of the Laws had been imputed to King *James*, and yet who they were who careſs'd, flatter'd and made Addreſſes of thanks to him for his unhappy adminiſtration; and to come nearer the preſent, who deſign'd very civil things to Her preſent Majeſty? But Reflections are not agreeable to me however well grounded: I only grieve to hear one of their Advocates ſay, *their Principles are not chang'd.*

It might be expected, that when he brands the Tories with this Poſition, that *they oppoſe and diſtreſs Her Majeſty*, ſome matters of Fact ſhou'd be produced in confirmation of it. But their Innocence is ſo pure, that they challenge any one inſtance to be given of ſuch Behaviour And when he would enumerate them, he betrays an Ignorance equal to his Malice.

Were it not to conſume more time than at preſent I can ſpare, it might undeniably be made appear, that *the Whigs have left their Principles, and from being zealous Aſſertors of the People's Liberties, are turn'd errant Courtiers.* When I ſay the Whigs, I ſpeak of them in general, for none can be ignorant that ſome of the ableſt of them have not diſſented from the Tories in any one Vote of late years: ſo that by endeavouring to throw dirt on the Tories, he equally beſpatters the beſt of the others. To demonſtrate this, there needs no more, than impartially to examine the Proceedings of the late Parliament. 'Tis not my Buſineſs to determine whether the Tories acted well or ill in propoſing an Invitation to the Princeſs *Sophia* to reſide here, or whether it was agreeable to her Highneſs's Inclination; this I leave to be reſolved by A. B. C. &c. or whether it was a publick Spirit made them ſo earneſt in propoſing what was called the ſelf-denial-Bill, which was to limit the Number of Officers in the Houſe. Or what motives they had to enquire into the occaſions of the Loſs of the fatal Battle of Almanza. But ſure, no one in his ſenſes, will ſay the Whigs acted agreeably to their former profeſſed Principles, who ſo violently oppoſed theſe attempts, and ſome few others I only have time to mention.

I am not inſenſible, that many object to both Parties, too great ſeverity againſt each other, and that each calumniates the other unjuſtly. But there is this remarkable difference; that the Whigs accuſe the Tories of Principles, and then explode them, which the Tories utterly diſown; and the Tories blame the Whigs for the Principles they publickly avow in all their diſcourſes, their Books, and their Actions: from hence it plainly follows, that the Whigs cenſure the Tories unjuſtly and unreaſonably, and that tho' it could be allow'd that their Principles were right and honeſt, yet ſurely they are juſtly taxed with them.

However Bribery and Paſſion may blind him, yet every conſidering Man muſt own the Charge againſt the Tories, of a Deſire to bring over the Pretender, or to introduce *French* Government, is groundleſs and Childiſh. If any one has ſuch an apprehenſion, let him remove the Doubt, by reflecting, it is not done; and let him impartially conſider, which Party is moſt remarkable for Rebellion; and tho' Moderation is much talk'd on, which really acts with moſt Charity: and

what

what ſort of Men are moſt likely to adhere to her Majeſty
preſent Conſtitution; they whoſe Fortunes conſiſt in Land, or
Exigence can tranſport their Subſtance, and who have procur'd
robbing and cheating the Publick. He commends indeed ſome
even lent their own Money, and I believe they have been repaid with
let no one laugh at the Expreſſion, and wonder what Money a Man
his own, for I have heard of People, who have very kindly lent the
the Government's own Money.

He charges the Tories, (tho' he confeſſes they are not Jacobites)
Rejoycings on the Account of ill News, and which he ſays, *have been too*
having oppos'd the Settlement, with being againſt carrying on the War,
ing to diſoblige the King of Portugal. And what Reply can be made to
Untruths, but denying them? A Man may accuſe and call Names
but ſure 'tis the Railer ſuffers in his Character, and not the innocent
his Fury has obliterated his Memory, and tranſported him to an inſu
when he inveighs againſt thoſe, who were formerly for owning the
King of *Spain*; for if I miſtake not, his late Majeſty King *William*, of
mory, was not only for owning him, but actually did ſo: And what
him more than an Offence againſt the reputation of a dead King;
ſect the Treaty of Partition, what was ſtipulated in it, and who
ſellors of it. 'Tis certain the Tories had nothing to do with the

And as in conſideration to ſome People (if not to himſelf) he ſhould
ted that; ſo in regard to the Bank, he ought to have drop'd that
the Story will prove of Service to thoſe Perſons he particularly deſigns
What benefit the Bank reap'd, by mentioning in the Houſe of
Ruin againſt them, they beſt know, or may feel in time; but 'tis
that the Gentlemen againſt whom the Complaint was level'd, were
and honourably acquitted by the Houſe, from promoting any
the Perſons who introduced the Complaint, confeſs'd 'twas a miſtake
the way, ſome People cannot yet comprehend, when Goldſmiths
brought to him for Payment, why he ſhou'd not ſend other Men's
or indeed why any Man ſhould not ask for his Money when he
yet this noble Patriot thinks that a Man's demanding his own is
jection to his being elected a Member, than his being Jacobite,
and Enſlaver of his Native Country; for after he has ſumm'd up all
can rake together, he bids his Elector *above all*, not to chuſe ſuch

I preſume Sir, you now begin to be as weary of the Subject, as I
Morning's Exerciſe; give me leave only to make one or two Refere
Judgment, and to the *honeſt Britains*; and I am confident it will be
they are much fitter to repreſent their Country in Parliament,
conſider'd the Union as a vaſt undertaking, and of the laſt Conſequence
fore wou'd have proceeded in it with the greateſt Temperance and
yet when it was compleated, would have it preſerv'd with the
and Juſtice; than ſome who applauded it before they knew any
Terms, who haſtily and zealouſly agreed to the Articles, and yet
ready to infringe them upon every occaſion.

There muſt be the ſame opinion had of thoſe, who chearfully
Charge of the War, and who pay much the larger Proportion, yet
in the application of the Publick Money, nor wou'd allow a full
contract Debts, and leſſen our Forces. I do not offer to ſay ſuch a
done; you, Sir, and every Man knows the Truth as well as I; but
rare Notions of Liberty, who wou'd debar a Houſe of Commons
quiry. Shou'd any Miniſter be found guilty, he ought to
Puniſhment, if he is innocent, the ſearch will redound to his
who make it, juſtify themſelves to be the faithfulleſt Subjects to
only true and diſintereſted Patriots of their Country, and
repreſent it.